6. (Currently amended) A bag panel, said bag panel having an axis of radial symmetry, said axis of radial symmetry being located within a central attachment region of said bag panel, said bag panel further having a tether system comprising at least two tether segments arranged radially about said central attachment region in a configuration having at least one axis of symmetry that is perpendicular to said axis of radial symmetry of said bag panel; wherein said tether segments are cut from a textile fabric, said textile fabric constructed of a group of warp yarns and a group of fill yarns, said tether segments being cut in substantial alignment with one of said groups of yarns, and wherein arcuate portions of a circular seam secure an end portion of each of said tether segments to said bag panel, said circular seam being located along the boundary of the central attachment region of said bag panel.

7. (Cancelled) ~~The bag panel of Claim 6 wherein said tether segments are arranged radially about said axis of radial symmetry of said bag panel.~~

8. (Original) The bag panel of Claim 6 wherein said axis of radial symmetry passes through the center of said central attachment region.

9. (Currently amended) The bag panel of Claim 6 wherein said central attachment region associated with said bag panel contains a reinforcement attached to said bag panel and said tether segments by said circular seam.

10. (Cancelled) ~~The bag panel of Claim 9 wherein said reinforcement is attached to said tether segments.~~

11. (Original) The bag panel of Claim 6 wherein said tether segments are substantially rectangular in shape.

12. (Original) The bag panel of Claim 11 wherein said tether segments are substantially congruent.

13. (Currently amended) The bag panel of Claim 6 wherein said [bag panel] tether system is comprised of three of said tether segments.

14. (Currently amended) The bag panel of Claim 13 wherein said [bag panel] tether system is comprised of three tether segments and at least one reinforcement attached to said tether segments.

15. (Currently amended) The bag panel of Claim 6 wherein said [bag panel] tether system is comprised of four of said tether segments.

16. (Original) The bag panel of Claim 15 wherein said bag panel is comprised of four tether segments and at least one reinforcement attached to said tether segments.

17. (Cancelled) ~~An air bag, said air bag having at least one tether panel, said tether panel comprising at least two tether segments cut from a textile fabric, said fabric constructed of a group of warp yarns and a group of fill yarns, wherein each of said segments is cut in substantial alignment with one of said groups of yarns.~~

18. (Cancelled) ~~The air bag of Claim 17, said air bag having an axis of radial symmetry and being comprised of a first bag panel and a second bag panel, said axis of radial symmetry being located within a central attachment region of said first bag panel and said second bag panel, said first and second bag panels further having at least two tether segments arranged radially about said central attachment region in a configuration having at least one axis of symmetry that is perpendicular to said axis of radial symmetry of said bag panel, wherein said tether segments connect said first bag panel to said second bag panel and wherein said tether segments are cut from a textile fabric in alignment with the primary load bearing axis of the fabric.~~

19. (Withdrawn) A fabric blank comprising a textile fabric, said textile fabric constructed of a group of warp yarns and a group of fill yarns, on which a pattern-wise configuration of air bag panels, tether segments, and reinforcements is arranged in tiled relation, said tether segments being cut in substantial alignment with one of said groups of yarns.

20. (Withdrawn) The fabric blank of Claim 19 wherein said tether segments are substantially rectangular in shape and are congruent.

21. (Withdrawn) The fabric blank of Claim 19 wherein said reinforcements are substantially circular in shape.

22. (Withdrawn) The fabric blank of Claim 19 wherein said textile fabric is coated.

23. (Withdrawn) The fabric blank of Claim 19 wherein said textile fabric is laminated.

24. (NEW) An air bag comprising a first bag panel and a second bag panel, said first bag panel having a first tether system attached thereto, said first tether system comprising at least two tether segments, and said second bag panel having a second tether system attached thereto, said second tether system comprising a number of tether segments that is equal to that of said first tether system, and wherein each of said bag panels has a central attachment region around which said tether segments are radially positioned, each of said tether segments having a first end portion that is attached to a respective bag panel by an arcuate portion of a circular seam sewn around said central attachment region of said bag panel and having a second end portion that is attached to the second end portion of a corresponding tether segment whose first end portion is attached to an opposing bag panel, each of said tether segments being cut from a textile fabric having a warp and a fill, each of said tether segments being cut in alignment with the warp or the fill.

25. (NEW) The air bag of Claim 24, wherein each of said first and said second tether systems has three tether segments.

26. (NEW) The air bag of Claim 24, wherein each of said first and said second tether systems has four tether segments.

27. (NEW) The air bag of Claim 24, wherein at least one of said tether systems further comprises a reinforcement that is positioned in said central attachment region and that is secured to said tether segments and to said bag panel by said circular seam.